Officer and by the Sanitary Commissioner, both of whom worked unsparingly. The thanks of the Government are due to the many non-official organisations and individuals who so readily and selflessly seconded and supplemented the efforts of the Government agencies. Large numbers of Roman Catholic priests all over the afflicted area devoted themselves day and night self-sacrificingly and with all the resources of their parishes to the succour of the sick. The members of the Salvation Army worked unselfishly in the same direction and the value of the skilled medical help rendered by the London Mission doctors in and about Neyyoor cannot be minimised. No reference to the voluntary workers in the affected areas would be complete without mention of the non-official members of the Legislative Council and of this Assembly who were to be seen going about from place to place doing all they could to help the medical and sanitary officers and to relieve the sufferers.

Education.

22. The twelfth chapter of the Administration Report now before you tells you all about the position and progress of education in Travancore. We continue to advance. The total number under instruction in 1102 fell short of half a milion by 11,000. In 1103, we rose beyond the half million by 19,000. The gross expenditure out of general revenues on education during 1103, worked out to Re. 1 per head of the population as at the last census. The net cost of educating a pupil in a Government institution was about Rs. 6 a year. On an average there was 1 school to every 1·89 square miles of the total area of the State which includes reserved forests and backwaters. But taking the inhabited area at 5,000 sq. miles we have a school to every 1·3 sq. miles and there is a school to every 998 of the population of the State. The number of girls under instruction was 191,000, 124,000 in boys' schools and 67,000 in girls' schools. The education of boys and girls together is practically universal in the primary schools and, except in the matter of the teaching staff, there is no object in differentiating boys' schools from girls' schools. And as soon as the policy is given effect to of staffing primary schools with women teachers to a greater extent than at present, the differentiation can be dispensed with. In the matter of higher education for girls the most important event in the year was the raising of the Women's College from the second grade to the first grade and the construction of a large and handsome college to replace the older buildings. Lower down in the scale of education the most important event was the improvement of the pay and prospects of teachers in vernacular primary and middle schools. The amount of additional expenditure which has been provided during the year for this purpose is Rs. 2 lakhs. This will benefit many thousands of teachers both in Government and in aided schools. The good work thus begun is being continued. The educational department is busy with the consideration of some important reforms including the giving of a practical turn to the instruction now imparted in our schools.

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